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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/642,500	08/18/2003	Matthias Vogel	13906-134001 / 2003P00532	1709
32864 7590 06/18/2007 FISH & RICHARDSON, P.C. PO BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			EXAMINER DADA, BEEMNET W	
			ART UNIT 2135	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/18/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/642,500	Applicant(s) VOGEL ET AL.	
	Examiner Beemnet W. Dada	Art Unit 2135	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/28/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in reply to an amendment filed on March 28, 2007. Claims 1-3, 10, 13, 18-22 have been amended and new claims 23-26 have been added. Claims 1-26 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed March 28, 2007 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 992 873 A2 Hashimoto et al. (hereinafter Hashimoto) in view of Griffin et al. US 2002/0178119 A1 (hereinafter Griffin) [submitted with IDS filed on 03/28/07].

5. As per claims 1 and 18, Hashimoto teaches a computer-implemented method for generating access control information, the method comprising:

receiving an access control rule that identifies a characteristic (i.e., access-right setting pattern list) [column 7, lines 48-56 and figure 3];

identifying at least one entry in user information that is associated with the identified characteristic [column 8, lines 10-19];

identifying at least one entry in data object (i.e., content) information that is associated with the identified characteristic [column 7, lines 56-column 8, lines 10]; and

generating access control information that permits at least one user associated with the at least one entry in the user information to access the at least one entry in the data object information [column 8, lines 20-49]. Hashimoto is silent on programmatically identifying entry in user and object information. However, Griffin teaches a role based access control system, including programmatically identifying at least one entry in user information that is associated with an identified characteristic and programmatically identifying at least one entry in data object information that is associated with an identified characteristic (i.e., in an automatic manner using a software program, see Griffin, paragraphs 0010, 0061-0063). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to employ the teachings of Griffin within the system of Hashimoto in order to enhance the efficiency of the system by performing database/access control updates automatically.

6. As per claim 10, Hashimoto teaches a computer system for managing access control information for software operating on the computer system, the system comprising:

a data repository for access control information for software, the data repository including user information identifying a user characteristic for at least one entry in the user information [column 8, lines 10-19], data object information identifying a data object characteristic for at least one entry in the data object information [column 7, lines 56-column 8, lines 10], and access control rule information identifying a shared characteristic for at least one entry in the access control rule information [column 8, lines 20-49]; and

an executable software module that causes (1) a comparison of the user characteristic, the business object characteristic, and the shared characteristic and (2) generation of access control information for use in determining whether a user that is associated with an entry in the user information is permitted to access a data object that is associated with an entry in the data object information such that when the user characteristic, the data object characteristic and the shared characteristic each correspond to one another, the user is permitted to access the data object [column 8, lines 43-column 9, lines 7].

generating access control information that permits at least one user associated with the at least one entry in the user information to access the at least one entry in the data object information [column 8, lines 20-49].

Hashimoto is silent on a programmatic comparison of the user characteristic as cited in the claim. However, Griffin teaches a role based access control system including, programmatic comparison of a user characteristic, a data object characteristic and a shared characteristic (i.e., group object) indicating that the user characteristic correspond to the shared characteristic and the data object characteristic corresponds to the shared characteristic [Griffin, paragraphs 0030, 0061-0063], and generating access control information that prevents the user associated with the entry in the user information from accessing the data object condition on programmatic comparison of the user characteristic, the data object characteristic and the shared characteristic indicating that the user characteristic does not correspond to the shared characteristic or the data object characteristic does not correspond to the shared characteristic [paragraphs 0061-0063]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to employ the teachings of Griffin within the system of Hashimoto in order to enhance the efficiency of the system by performing database/access control updates automatically.

7. As per claims 2 and 11-12, Hashimoto further teaches the method wherein, the identified characteristic is indirectly associated with the at least one entry in the user information, and identifying at least one entry in user information that is associated with the identified characteristic comprises identifying at least one entry in user information that is indirectly associated with the identified characteristic [column 8, lines 10-19 and figure 3-5]. Griffin further teaches programmatically identifying at least one entry [paragraphs 0061-0063].

8. As per claim 3, Hashimoto further teaches the method wherein, the identified characteristic is directly associated with the at least one entry in the user information, and identifying at least one entry in user information that is associated with the identified characteristic comprises identifying at least one entry in user information that is directly associated with the identified characteristic [column 8, lines 10-19 and figure 3-5]. Griffin further teaches programmatically identifying at least one entry [paragraphs 0061-0063].

9. As per claims 4-7 and 13-17, Hashimoto further teaches the method wherein, generating access control information comprises: generating/storing user access control information that identifies the at least one entry in the user information that is associated with the identified characteristic, generating object access control information that identifies the at least one entry in the data object information that is associated with the identified characteristic, and associating at least one entry in the user access control information with at least one entry in the data object access control information [column 8, lines 20-49].

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10. As per claims 8, 9, 21 and 22, Hashimoto further teaches the method further comprising receiving a filter condition, wherein generating access control information further comprises generating access control information by eliminating at least one entry in the user information/data object information that corresponds to the received filter condition such that access control information does not include the eliminated at least one entry in the user data object information [column 8, lines 5-39].

11. As per claims 19 and 20, Hashimoto further teaches the method wherein the one or more code segments configured to generate access control information comprise one or more code segments configured to: generate user access control information that identifies the at least one entry in the user information that is associated with the identified characteristic, generate object access control information that identifies the at least one entry in the data object information that is associated with the identified characteristic, and associate at least one entry in the user access control information with at least one entry in the data object access control information [column 8, lines 5-36].

12. As per claim 23, Griffin further teaches the method wherein programmatically identifying at least one entry in user information that is associated with the identified characteristic, programmatically identifying at least one entry in data object information that is associated with the identified characteristic, and generating access control information that permits at least one user associated with the at least one entry in the user information to access the at least one entry in the data object information occurs automatically without human intervention [paragraph 0030].

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13. As per claims 24-26, Griffin further teaches the method wherein programmatically identifying at least one entry in user information that is associated with the identified characteristic comprises: programmatically identifying a first entry in user information that is associated with the identified characteristic, and programmatically identifying a second entry in user information that is associated with the identified characteristic, the first entry being associated with a first user the second entry being associated with a second user that is different than the first user, programmatically identifying at least one entry in data object information that is associated with the identified characteristic comprises programmatically identifying a first data object in data object information that is associated with the identified characteristic and generating access control information that permits at least one user associated with the at least one entry in the user information to access the at least one entry in the data object information comprises generating access control rule information that enables the first user to access the first data object and the second user to access first data object [paragraphs 0060-0063].

Conclusion

14. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

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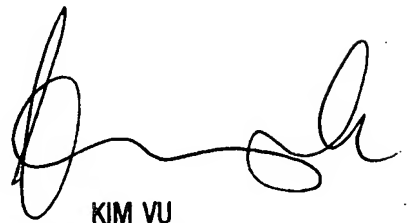
CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Beemnet Dada

June 10, 2007



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